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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

e the Application of: Hiroaki TAKEHARA et al

Group Art Unit: 1754

Application Number: 10/735,844

Examiner: Alvin T. Raetzsch

Filed: December 16, 2003

Confirmation Number: 3178

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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 October 31, 2006

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OCT 3 1 2006

This Amendment is filed in response to the Office Action dated August 8, 2006, in which the Examiner set forth a three-month period for response, making a response timely if filed on or before November 8, 2006.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this paper.